

October 17, 2014

Weekly Views

Resident volunteers from the South Bend Community Reentry Center (SBCRC) participated in a "Fall Clean Up" at the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVPS) of St. Joseph County. Residents from the SBCRC had the opportunity to help with landscaping and preparation for next year's Unity Gardens. Lunch was provided by St. Vincent de Paul in appreciation for the volunteers' hard work and selfless dedication. SVPS Volunteer Recruiter, Darlene Sweeney was very thankful for the outstanding work and professional work ethic that the residents demonstrated. The partnership between SVPS and SBCRC has been long lasting and mutually beneficial for both partners. Each year St. Vincent de

Paul donates clothing to the facility for indigent residents, and twice each year South Bend Reentry provides opportunities for residents to give back to the community by volunteering. (photo right)

Miami Correctional Facility celebrated the completion of the U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program for 201 offenders with a graduation ceremony. Of the offenders who completed 177 were able to attend the ceremony along with nearly 100 family members. Special guests included Gil Peters, Assistant to the Commissioner, Doug Evans, PEN Director of Apprenticeship; and Misty Cline with Aramark. Graduates were presented with a certificate of completion and treated to cake and refreshments.



Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility won first place in three categories in Madison's 2014 Soup, Stew, Chili, & Brew Festival. Roni Rayburn's Homemade Chicken Noodle soup took first place in the soup category. MJCF's Lumberjack Chili made by Sergeant Jason Devey won first place in the chili category, and the facility won first place in the brew category with a hot apple cider drink. This is the facility's fourth year participating in this community event but the first time the facility placed in any category. The annual festival is hosted by the Madison Area Chamber of Commerce and is the only festival located on Madison's historical downtown Main Street. (photo left)



During the monthly meeting of the American Legion Post 130 at the Indiana State Prison, eleven offenders participated in a special program to donate their hair to the Locks of Love.

Locks of Love is a public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children in the United States and Canada under age 21 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis. (photo right)

Offenders in the Henryville Correctional Facility's U.S. Department of Labor Landscapers & Maintenance program have completed work on beautifying the area around the facility's flagpole. The offenders did a great job on this project and were tasked to perform all aspects of the project, including budgeting, pre-planning for problematic issues, locating utilities, assessing foundation structure, and obtaining materials at the best cost. They had complete control of the project and staff acted as consultants. (photo below)



Instructor Robert Bingham moved his classroom from Indiana University to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) campus. Criminal Justice Department Probation and Parole students toured restrictive status and open population housing units. A visit to the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit included a question and answer session with participants. The group also interacted with custody and education staff, learning more about effective offender re-entry programs in a maximum-security setting. (photo below)

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) conducted a Staff Assembly. Superintendent Dushan Zatecky, Assistant Superintendent Duane Alsip and



Classification Supervisor Paula Dickson presented facility updates addressing recent events and activities that have impacted the facility. Employees were also recognized for promotions, years of service, retirements, and other achievements. Officer Charles Stoner was recognized as Employee of the Quarter, and Sergeant Mark Hahn was named the facility's Supervisor of the Quarter. Superintendent Zatecky thanked Lt. Steven Hill and Jill Savage for creating a peer support group, which allows staff to share experiences and is held on a monthly basis at the local library.

Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) Officer Timothy Cross earned the Certified Corrections Officer designation from the American Correctional Association. Prior to certification applicants qualify on the basis of their experience and accomplishments in the field of corrections. Then, they must successfully complete a comprehensive examination that tests their knowledge as a correctional officer. The certification process is designed to advance the overall knowledge level of correctional officers.

